



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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August 21, 2014

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE:

W-4
A4136

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

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Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

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BOARD MOTION OF JULY 22, 2014, AGENDA ITEM 22-A EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

On July 22, 2014, the Board instructed the Chief Executive Officer to implement the regulations for water conservation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) at all County facilities. The Board also instructed the Director of Public Works to review the existing Rules and Regulations of the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts (Districts) and County Water Wasting Ordinance and recommend to the Board the necessary changes to reflect the SWRCB-adopted emergency regulations.

Implementing the Regulations for Water Conservation at County Facilities

On July 23, 2014, the Chief Executive Officer issued the attached memo instructing all County personnel, departments, and facilities to take the necessary steps to fully comply with the SWRCB's emergency regulations. Additionally, the memo directed that all County personnel, departments, and facilities implement additional Best Management Practices related to outdoor water usage.

Review of the Districts' Rules and Regulations

The SWRCB regulations require all urban water users to comply with specific outdoor water use restrictions and water retailers to implement their water shortage contingency plans that impose mandatory restrictions on outdoor irrigation.

To comply with the SWRCB regulations, Public Works will use the authority granted to the District Engineer in Section 1-K-1 of the Districts' Rules and Regulations to send notices to all District customers to comply with the State-adopted prohibition for urban water users and restrict outdoor water use to three days per week in the summer and two days in the winter. The outdoor restriction is consistent with the SWRCB-adopted

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regulations and the actions taken by other retail agencies such as the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Long Beach Water Department, Palmdale Water District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Pasadena Water and Power, and Glendale Water and Power. Enforcement of the outdoor watering restriction will be progressive and will start with customer education through the Districts' existing water conservation program and will culminate in enforcement of the up to \$500 fine per day. The Districts are collaborating with the Cities of Lancaster, Palmdale, and Malibu for enforcement in areas of the cities served by the Districts and with the County Department of Public Health (DPH) in the unincorporated areas served by the Districts.

In anticipation of a worsening drought, Public Works will return to the Board in the future with recommended modifications to the Districts' water shortage contingency plan. The modifications would provide greater flexibility in implementing further water use restrictions.

Modifications to the County Water Wasting Ordinance

The attached County Water Wasting Ordinance (County Ordinance) is codified in Sections 620-680 of Chapter 11.38 of the Los Angeles County Code of Regulations and is enforced by DPH. DPH has procedures in place to respond to and enforce the County Ordinance. Reported water wasting complaints will be investigated by water utilities that will, through their water conservation education program, advise their customers to take the proper actions to correct the cause of problem. Repeat offenders will be referred to DPH for enforcement including a fine of up to \$500 per day.

The County Ordinance contains most of the activities prohibited by the SWRCB-adopted regulations except for prohibiting runoff of irrigation water onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, and structures. We are working with DPH to recommend revisions to the County Ordinance to reflect these additions.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Gary Hildebrand at (626) 458-4012 or ghildeb@dpw.lacounty.gov.

GE:dvt

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Attach.

cc: Rita Robinson
County Counsel
Executive Office
Department of Public Health



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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July 23, 2014

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

To: All Department Heads

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

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EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

On July 22, 2014, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a measure by Chairman Don Knabe, instructing all County personnel to immediately implement recently adopted, statewide emergency water conservation regulations.

On July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) passed a resolution adopting emergency regulations adding new sections to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. The proposed emergency regulations include a prohibition on certain classes of water use, an order for all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory conservation measures, and an order for water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production.

The emergency regulations adopted by the SWRCB focus on outdoor water use and would prohibit each of the following, except in the case of health or safety needs or to comply with a term or condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency:

- The direct application of water to hard surfaces, such as driveways, sidewalks and parking lots.
- Watering of outdoor landscapes that cause runoff to adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots or structures.
- Using a hose to wash an automobile, unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle.
- Using potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated.

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All Department Heads

July 23, 2014

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Violations of the above prohibited activities are considered infractions and are punishable by fines of \$500 for each day in which the violation occurs.

Effective immediately, all County personnel, departments and facilities must take the necessary steps to fully comply with the Board's motion and the SWRCB emergency regulations. Additionally, all County personnel, departments and facilities should also take the necessary actions to implement the following Best Management Practices related to outdoor water usage, including:

- Not irrigating landscaped areas with potable water between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Eliminating excessive over spray, excessive misting, over pressurization, misalignment or tilted spray heads, or other malfunction and/or out-of-adjustment condition which results in unreasonable waste of potable water.
- Permitting the excess use, loss or escape of potable water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in plumbing.

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Alsop, Assistant CEO, at (213) 974-1100. Thank you for your time and attention.

WTF:RA:gl

11.38.620 Hose watering prohibition.

No person shall hose water or wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas or other paved surfaces, except as is required for the benefit of public health and safety. Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.630 Watering of lawns and landscaping.

- A.

No person shall water or cause to be watered any lawn or landscaping between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- B.

No person shall water or cause to be watered any lawn or landscaping more than once a day.
- C.

No person shall water or cause to be watered any lawn or landscaping to such an extent that runoff into adjoining streets, parking lots or alleys occurs due to incorrectly directed or maintained sprinklers or excessive watering.
- D.

It shall be the duty of all persons to inspect all hoses, faucets and sprinkling systems for leaks, and to cause all leaks to be repaired as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- E.

Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.640 Indoor plumbing and fixtures.

- A.

It shall be the duty of all persons to inspect all accessible indoor plumbing and faucets for leaks, and to cause all leaks to be repaired as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- B.

Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.650 Washing vehicles.

No motor vehicle, boat, trailer, or other type of mobile equipment may be washed, except at a commercial carwash or with reclaimed water, unless such vehicle is washed by using a hand-held bucket or a water-hose equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle. No person shall leave a water hose running while washing a vehicle or at any other time. Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.660 Public eating places.

No restaurant, hotel, cafeteria, café, or other public place where food is sold or served shall serve drinking water to any customer unless specifically requested to do so by such customer. Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.670 Decorative fountains.

No person shall use water to clean, fill, or maintain levels in decorative fountains, ponds, lakes, or other similar aesthetic structures unless such water flows through a recycling system. Willful violation hereof shall be subject to a written warning for the first violation, and shall be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 for each subsequent violation.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008: Ord. 91-0046U § 1 (part), 1991.)

11.38.680 Procedural requirements.

The Director of Public Works, with input and concurrence from the Director of Public Health, shall periodically review the provisions of this Part and recommend necessary updates to the Board of Supervisors. The review of these provisions and preparation of resulting recommendations, if any, shall be performed, at a minimum, every two years following the first review, which shall be completed by December 31, 2010.

(Ord. 2008-0052U § 1 (part), 2008.)